# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT IN THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

DEBBIE HAYWARD, Plaintiff, -vs.-

**DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL** 

R.M. GALICIA, INC., a/k/a PROGRESSIVE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS, Defendant.

#### **COMPLAINT & JURY DEMAND**

Plaintiff, Debbie Hayward, through counsel, Nitzkin and Associates, by Gary Nitzkin states the following claims for relief:

#### **JURISDICTION**

- This court has jurisdiction under the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act ("FDCPA"), 15
   U.S.C. §1692k(d) and 28 U.S.C. §§1331,1337.
- 2. This court may exercise supplemental jurisdiction over the related state law claims arising out of the same nucleus of operative facts which give rise to the Federal law claims.

#### **PARTIES**

3. The Defendant to this lawsuit is R.M. Galicia, Inc. which is a California company that maintains registered offices in Ingham County.

#### **VENUE**

- The transactions and occurrences which give rise to this action occurred in Los Angeles
  County.
- 5. Venue is proper in the Western District of Michigan.

#### **GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

- 6. Plaintiff has granted her power of attorney to Pam Wheeler.
- 7. Defendant is attempting to collect a consumer type debt allegedly owed by Plaintiff to Presbyterian Intercomm Hospital.
- 8. On or about October 10, 2011, Ms. Wheeler, on behalf of the plaintiff, faxed a letter to the defendant instructing it to cease and desist having any further communication with the Plaintiff in connection with its efforts to collect the debt.
- 9. The letter also directed the Defendant to stop calling both Plaintiff and Ms. Wheeler.
- 10. Defendant continued to call Ms. Wheeler matters on October 26, 2011, October 27, 2011, October 28, 2011 November 3, 2011 and November 17, 2011
- 11. in the voicemails that it had left for Ms. Wheeler, the Defendant failed to identity its company name in one of these messages. Also, Defendant failed to state that it is a debt collector in these messages.

#### COUNT I - FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT

12. Plaintiff reincorporates the preceding allegations by reference.

- 13. At all relevant times Defendant, in the ordinary course of its business, regularly engaged in the practice of collecting debts on behalf of other individuals or entities.
- 14. Plaintiff is a "consumer" for purposes of the FDCPA and the account at issue in this case is a consumer debt.
- 15. Defendant is a "debt collector" under the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act ("FDCPA"), 15 U.S.C. §1692a(6).
- 16. Defendant's foregoing acts in attempting to collect this alleged debt violated 15 U.S.C.§1692 et. seq;
- 17. The Plaintiff has suffered damages as a result of these violations of the FDCPA.

#### COUNT II - VIOLATION OF THE MICHIGAN OCCUPATIONAL CODE

- 18. Plaintiff incorporates the preceding allegations by reference.
- 19. Defendant is a "collection agency" as that term is defined in the Michigan Occupational Code ("MOC"), M.C.L. § 339.901(b).
- 20. Plaintiff is a debtor as that term is defined in M.C.L. § 339.901(f).
- 21. Defendant's foregoing acts in attempting to collect this alleged debt violated MCL §339.915
- 22. Plaintiff has suffered damages as a result of these violations of the Michigan Occupational Code.
- 23. These violations of the Michigan Occupational Code were willful.

# COUNT III - VIOLATION OF THE MICHIGAN COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT

- 24. Plaintiff incorporates the preceding allegations by reference.
- 25. Defendant is a "Regulated Person" as that term is defined in the Michigan Collection Practices Act ("MCPA"), at MCL § 445.251.
- 26. Plaintiff is a "Consumer" as that term is defined at MCL § 445.251.
- 27. Defendant's foregoing acts in attempting to collect this alleged debt violated MCL §445.252
- 28. Plaintiff has suffered damages as a result of these violations of the MCPA.
- 29. These violations of the MCPA were willful.

## **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

Plaintiff demands trial by jury in this action.

### DEMAND FOR JUDGMENT FOR RELIEF

Accordingly, Plaintiff requests that the Court grant him the following relief against the defendant:

- a. Actual damages.
- b. Statutory damages.
- c. Treble damages.
- d. Statutory costs and attorney fees.

Respectfully submitted,

December 2, 2011

/s/ Gary Nitzkin
GARY D. NITZKIN P41155
MICHIGAN CONSUMER CREDIT LAWYERS
Attorneys for Plaintiff
22142 West Nine Mile Road
Southfield, MI 48033
(248) 353-2882
Fax (248) 353-4840
Email –gnitzkin@creditor-law.com